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THE

RAGGED SCHOOL UNION

Quarterly Record.

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PRICE TWOPENCE.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—The Committee desire to express their grateful thanks to Mrs. Dumbleton, for a parcel of clothing; to Mrs. W. Birkbeck, for a parcel of clothes; to Miss Judson, for some knitted socks and stockings; to A Friend, for a package of useful clothing; to Anonymous, for a parcel of clothes; to Mrs. Johnston, for two parcels of clothes and some dolls for the Holiday Homes; to A Well-Wisher, for a parcel of hats and bonnets; to Mrs. W. Birkbeck, for some children's pinafores; and also to J. W. Tait, Esq., for a parcel of tracts.

SCHOLARS' PRIZES.

CHRISTMAS, 1886.

The Committee of the Ragged School Union have again decided to award Prizes to Scholars for keeping situations for twelve months and upwards to Christmas, 1886.

Large Bills containing the Rules (for affixing on Schoolroom walls) will be issued and sent to the affiliated Schools and Missions early in October. Others may be had at the Offices.

The APPLICATION FORMS will be ready early in DECEMBER, and should be applied for at the OFFICE, EXETER HALL, W.C.

DAYS OF SPECIAL PRAYER.

The days fixed for *United Universal Prayer on behalf of Sunday Schools* are Sunday, October 17th, and Monday, the 18th. The Committee of the Ragged School Union earnestly plead for united petition for the Divine blessing to be poured forth upon all efforts to win the Young to Christ, and trust that meetings will be held for this purpose in all the affiliated Ragged Schools and Missions.

NEW ANNUALS.

NEW ANNUALS.

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EACH ONE PENNY WEEKLY, OR SIXPENCE MONTHLY.

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Parents, Schoolmasters, and Teachers will greatly assist the efforts of the Publishers by making these Journals of pure literature known in their families or schools. Prospectuses of the New Volumes for distribution will be forwarded on application at 56, Paternoster Row.

Early Orders for the Monthly Parts should be given to the Newsagents.

LONDON: RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY, 56, PATERNOSTER ROW, AND 164, PICCADILLY; AND ALL BOOKSELLERS.

FRIENDLESS & FALLEN.

COMING WINTER WANTS.

Thus far **THE LORD,** in His kind providence, has been very gracious in disposing the hearts of His servants to supply the necessary funds to sustain the **SIX HOMES** for the **PROTECTION** of **FRIENDLESS GIRLS** and the **RESCUE** of the **FALLEN**; also the **OPEN-ALL-NIGHT REFUGE.**

Surely it will be a source of satisfaction to all who contribute to know that **NO SUITABLE CASES** have been rejected. Very many have been received in the silent hours of the night, and also on the Lord's Day. If at times faith has been sorely tried for means, young women and girls have **NEVER BEEN REJECTED** on that account.

From January 1st to September 22nd, **1,100 YOUNG WOMEN** and **GIRLS** have sought admission.

The coming winter's **WANTS** are now made known.

At least **£2,000** will be required before the end of the year. The **NEW HOME** at **PARSON'S GREEN** is now ready for furnishing. **EVERY READER** is asked to contribute or to collect donations, large or small, as the Lord may enable and dispose the hearts of His servants to give.

CONTRIBUTIONS will be thankfully received by the Bankers—Lloyds, Barnetts, & Bosanquet's (Limited), City, 60, Lombard Street, E.C.; West Branch, 54, St. James Street, S.W.; Francis Nicholls, Esq., of the Committee, 14, Old Jewry Chambers, E.C.; or by

EDWARD W. THOMAS,

200, Euston Road, London, N.W. *Secretary.*

Second Edition, "Twenty-five Years' Labour on Behalf of the Friendless and Fallen," published by John F. Shaw & Co., 48, Paternoster Row, E.C. 2s. 6d. Profits to be devoted to the support of the Homes.

The Third Annual Conference will be held (D.V.) at **Exeter Hall, Wednesday, November 3rd,** Ladies only: morning at 11, afternoon at 3. **MRS. FRANK BEVAN** has kindly consented to preside. Evening arrangements not yet completed. Full Particulars and Cards of Admission on application to E. W. THOMAS, as above.

RAGGED SCHOOL UNION QUARTERLY RECORD.

OCTOBER, 1886.

JUST A TWELVEMONTH AGO!

It was on the 1st of October last year, and early in the afternoon, that a telegram was received at the office of the Ragged School Union announcing the death of its noble President. A sharp pang of sorrow was inevitable, which rapidly gave place to, or was commingled with, another feeling—that of gratefulness to God for having spared to such an advanced age so eminent a public servant, and for having crowned a laborious and unselfish life with the gems of a disenthralled humanity.

It is an open secret that Messrs. Cassell and Co. are about to issue a complete life of the great philanthropist from the sympathetic pen of Mr. Edward Hodder. This will give to the world a more adequate idea of the greatness of the man and of the loss sustained in his removal. It is a source of satisfaction that we should have been permitted to institute a Shaftesbury Fund under his lordship's personal sanction and influence for the express purpose of building New Ragged Schools and Mission centres, and of enlarging and extending present buildings. This will keep his name and memory green in connection with a movement he loved both wisely and well.

The moral condition of the metropolis in 1844, when Lord Ashley came to the front as the active patron of an organised effort for the rescue of the poorest children, was far different from what it is now. It is true that for many years there had been in existence and active operation the National, British, and Sunday Schools, the London City Mission, and all the great religious agencies comprising the Established Church and the various nonconforming bodies. Nevertheless, the slums of London had so escaped observation that, as by sudden discovery, there was found in every quarter a reckless and profligate

class, hidden away and rapidly multiplying. Surprise and alarm were evoked. The low and unlicensed lodging-houses also were found affording shelter to a migratory class who were indifferent to all the proprieties of domestic life. The herding together of persons of loose morals, casually brought together, and unfettered with any restrictions as to social intercourse, was productive of much mischief.

The number of children of irregular descent from such a parentage —too ragged, too dirty, and too lawless to be admitted into any of the existing schools—had not escaped the notice of those whose quick moral sense and Christian pity made them specially impatient of juvenile misery.

The schools already established by Nelson, Raikes, Bell, Lancaster, Rowland Hill, Crampton, and others were partly intended to meet the wants of this particular class; but some of these efforts were too limited in their area, or too ephemeral in their existence, or rose above the lowest level, that they eventually failed to include them, or, as the prophet said, "they only healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly."

It was at this juncture of affairs, failing to find any existing institution capable or willing to cope with so desperate an evil, that a few devoted men, with Lord Ashley at their head, established the Ragged School Union. The advantage of such a society is that it is a means of rapid intercommunication, and it was soon found that, however formidable the strife, there were many who were eager for the fray. The cry rose, "Gather the children!" and the answer was, "They come! they come!" The difficulty was not in gathering the children, but in reducing them to order.

Children whose sense of fun had been preternaturally quickened, and on whom no restraint of reverence or fear imposed conditions on its exercise, and who regarded a school as a place for a lark, and the teachers as fit subjects for a practical joke, made the work rather hot for their would-be masters. For a time the gatherings resembled Bedlam broke loose, but at length what Authority failed to do Love accomplished; order was established, and the work went on swimmingly.

The Ragged School Union being an essentially religious institution, its ultimate aim is the salvation of the souls of the children committed to its care. Other things are undertaken to awaken the intelligence of the children, to nourish and strengthen their bodies, to quicken their sense of right and wrong, and innocent things in harmony with their earthly surroundings are also engaged in for the purpose of gaining their affection and confidence. Over 3,000 teachers, through their intelligence and higher nature exercising a Christian influence over some 50,000 of the poor children of this metropolis, must be potent for good.

The Board Schools have, it is true, undertaken very largely the work of secular instruction, but there are several Ragged Day Schools still flourishing under the conduct of efficient teachers, whose special ability and length of service eminently qualify them for the discharge of their complex duties. The teachers have won the respect and affection of the neighbourhoods where the schools are located, and the implicit confidence of their committees. The poorest are reached, their homes are known, their attendance is secured on the Sabbath, the privations incident to non-employment are better known and relief more wisely administered, and the education is entirely free.

The following list of operations, nearly all of which constitute the permanent work of Ragged Schools, will help to a right appreciation of their importance:—

Sunday Schools, morning, afternoon, and evening; Bible Classes, Christian Bands, Prayer Meetings, Children's Services, Ragged Churches, Mothers' Meetings; Day, Ragged, and Week-night Schools; Classes for Factory Girls, Lads' Clubs, Youths' Institutes. Recreative agencies of an industrial form—boot-mending, patching clothes, wire-work, mat-making, carpentry, cookery, fretwork, dress-making, flower-making, wood-chopping, wood-carving, and inlaid work. Drawing; Libraries (greatly helped by the Religious Tract Society); Shoeblack Brigades. Benevolent agencies, such as Nurseries, Crèches, Free Breakfasts, Children's Dinners, Soup Kitchen, Maternity Society, Dorcas Meetings, Ladies' Working Parties, Domiciliary and Sick Visitation, hospital letters, obtaining situations, Temperance Meetings, Bands of Hope (junior and senior), Penny Banks.

These various efforts which came into play from time to time, as circumstances demanded, are best illustrated by a tree whose root is nourished by the soil of the Word of God, whose massive stem and wide-spreading branches indicate the multitude of benefits conferred. The Ragged School Union has promoted the multiplication of these and kindred efforts in the poorest quarters of London by aiding institutions with ordinary or special grants in money or materials; by conferences from time to time; by visitations of advice or sympathy; by aiding them in the winter time with the means of recreation and instruction; by the loan of lanterns and slides, and, when needed, at a merely nominal cost, with the assistance of a practised hand to work the lantern and explain the pictures, and with an organ to boot; and by promoting the establishment of reading-rooms and libraries, with accommodation for the practice of innocent amusement, such as draughts, chess, &c. These, with industrial occupations, such as carving

and inlaid work, basket-making, and essays in carpentry, &c., are all in the direction in which the Committee is anxious further to move. Grants in money have been made to such schools as have wisely felt their way in this direction.

The Day's Outing and Country Homes are dealt with elsewhere.

Extra Accommodation.

Several institutions are feeling the want of extra rooms, and some need to re-edify their structures. Already Dove Row, Giffin Street, Nelson Street, Marigold Place, Fox Court, James's Place, Latymer Road, Chiswick, King Edward Street, &c., have taken the bold step to meet the wants of the times by either enlargement or entire reconstruction. It has been the pleasure of the Committee to aid most of these liberally by grants of money for building, and fittings, and necessary school material.

Drunkenness, Impurity, and Improvidence.

Temperance Societies, Bands of Hope (junior and senior), Christian Bands, and Penny Banks are conducted with a view to remedy these evils. Modes of attraction are presented by Evenings of Readings and Recitations, Lectures on subjects familiar or remote, but so treated as to hold the attention of the most indifferent; the appetite being whetted from time to time with bits of pleasantry.

Athletics.

Gymnasium practice in winter and summer outdoor games are practised with advantage by several of the schools. The phrase "Muscular Christianity," which became current some years ago, and which by many was deemed objectionable, is now recognised as a very striking way of expressing a great truth, viz., the sacredness of the body, and popularly designates the various forms of athletics, comprising all those bodily dexterities which cluster about the gymnasium; and football, swimming, cricket, &c. It is seen by all interested in the promotion of personal purity that those games which require physical strength are incompatible with the practice of vices and passions which enfeeble the body, so that the gymnasium may be considered a portico of the temple, and an indirect auxiliary to righteousness.

Factory Girls

for the most part live in one room with other members of the family, including parents, brothers, and sisters, and of ages ranging from adult life to infancy. When the ideas and manners fostered by such a training are taken into consideration it will be readily under-

stood that the problem of treatment becomes exceedingly complicated. Yet what can love not conquer? Many such have seen the image of Jesus in their teachers, and from loving them have been drawn to love Him.

A lady in North London gathered rough girls together by allowing them to choose to play, or sew, or read, or to be taught any of the three R's. This work, which began in a small way, expanded into an institution.

In the East as well as other quarters of London there are several well-known efforts which gather large numbers of such girls. The wise loving manner in which they are treated softens and refines them.

Girls as well as boys of the rougher class, who seem to be unconscious of the possession of anything beyond a body, may, if they are met on their own platform by some active muscular amusement, be gradually led to a consciousness of their higher nature, and take pleasure in its exercise.

Continuance in Well-doing.

It is impossible to explain in detail all the useful and multifarious operations, but these are among the operations of a permanent character which no legislation can supersede, and which the Committee of the Ragged School Union are always anxious to maintain and promote. To provide agreeable occupation and innocent amusement for young people, and especially for those who, if left to themselves, will drift into folly, is one of the most pressing duties of the time, and will be one of the most successful means, if skilfully carried out, for bringing the more dangerous part of the juvenile population under the influence of persons of experience, intelligence, and piety, by whom they will be brought into contact with everything that can improve and elevate them. Religion, thus stripped of all that is gloomy and repulsive, and invested with sweetness and beauty, may become so eminently attractive that resistance to its claims would become well-nigh impossible.

Some institutions which came later into the field share with us the honour of helping to reclaim the waste places and make the wilderness rejoice and the desert blossom as the rose; but the extent of the moral waste is so vast that all the agencies now in operation find it difficult to limit its area, so that, God helping us and a generous public aiding us, we will hold on. We are not weary in well-doing. We have as a society reaped largely. It was the proud boast of the late Earl that some 300,000 children had been—by Ragged Schools—taken from the idle, criminal, degraded class,

and placed among the industrious, honest, and better-conditioned populace; and if we look at the seed wafted on the wings of pity from the Ragged School Tree, which found a lodgment in the hearts of those who now occupy the first rank of philanthropy—and bore fruit in refuges, homes, farms, ships, industrial schools, little boys' homes, and the wide success of the juvenile emigration wave—the multitudes so reached should be regarded as indirectly the products of the Ragged School Union, or of that moral heroism of which itself is the offspring.

THE LATE SAMUEL MORLEY, ESQ.

The general public, and the Christian public in particular, were on Monday, September 6th, surprised and saddened by the intelligence that soon after ten o'clock on Saturday night Mr. Morley was attacked with a fainting fit, from which he never rallied, and expired at half-past twelve on Sunday morning.

Mr. Morley was related to the public in many ways. As the conscientious head of a large trading and manufacturing firm he achieved a world-wide reputation; as Member of Parliament for Bristol he won the affection of his constituents and did good service for the Liberal party; as a Christian man he was most exemplary; and as a distinguished member of the Congregational body he used his great wealth in promoting the religious welfare of that community. He did much to supply the want of religious accommodation by contributing largely towards the erection of chapels and mission halls; and as a philanthropist, by his sympathy, personal service, and great generosity, he was bound up with all the important movements of the age. By those who knew him best he was regarded as a "Nonconformist Shaftesbury."

His funeral, which took place at Abney Park Cemetery, on Friday, the 10th September, was attended by eminent members of Parliament, among whom were Sir W. Vernon Harcourt and Mr. J. Morley, Cabinet Ministers of the late Government, and by representatives of and deputations from all the great religious societies, numbering over one thousand, and by a crowd of his workpeople. In Abney Chapel a religious service was conducted by the Revs. Neville Sherbrooke and J. C. Harrison. The latter gentleman delivered an address, which was for the most part an eloquent eulogium on the virtues of the departed, which recalled the lines of the poet—

> "Only the actions of the just
> Smell sweet and blossom in the dust."

THE LATE SAMUEL MORLEY, ESQ.

At the grave Canon Fleming officiated. In the course of his address he said: "Good men are the most precious gifts of Heaven. We all claim a part in Samuel Morley, for outside of his own denomination he has left the marks of his munificent philanthropy and Christian charity. He loved the truth better than any sect, and Christ better than any church, and he was loved and honoured by thousands from whom he differed conscientiously, but always kindly. Happy in the circumstances of his life, happy in his family, happy in his abundant means of doing good, he was above all happy in that love of God which was the motive power of all his actions, for religion was both the rudder and anchor of his soul. His sagacious judgment never forsook him. He saw at a glance what would tend to promote the moral and religious welfare of his fellow-men, and he did it, no matter what it cost him. For he felt that he was God's steward, and he found that liberal outlay became the condition of large returns. An eminent writer has said, 'If we wish to give sight to the blind, we must do as Christ did, lay our hands upon them.' This was the practical way in which he carried out his life mission. Working for God and man was the 'one thing' he did. Such a life reminds us where the strength of a nation lies—in our Christianity. It is only as we are Christians in our place, Christians in our mercantile transactions, Christians in our public life, Christians in our domestic relations, that we can accomplish as a nation the great purpose of God. Samuel Morley, from his grave, calls the young men of England to a noble Christian life by showing us in himself that 'the Christian is the highest type of manhood.'"

The late Samuel Morley, Esq., was a Vice-President of the Ragged School Union, and was for some years on the most intimate terms with its late revered President.

He took part in the great meeting held in the Guildhall, London, in celebration of the eightieth birthday of the Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, on which occasion he said: "The Earl's life has been an example and an inspiration, and I believe that efforts of the sort in which this grand institution—the Ragged School Union—is engaged will be needed as much as ever for the masses of the people. A hope is also expressed that the Ragged School Union should not be forgotten by the citizens of this great metropolis. May I trust that when his lordship is called to his rest there will be found men who will be prepared to fill the gap—to see that there is no diminution in those efforts for the reclamation of the lost to which his lordship's life has been devoted?" He was also present at the conference on Ragged Schools, presided over by the Earl, held in Exeter Hall on Wednesday, April 11, 1883, and on which occasion papers were read by

H. R. Williams, Esq., the Rev. Canon Fleming, and Professor Leone Levi, and in which the Duke of Westminster, the Earl of Aberdeen, John MacGregor, and deputations from Liverpool and Manchester took part. In speaking to the second resolution Mr. Morley said: "I greatly like this Ragged School Union, and I do not think it possible to overrate the value of Ragged Schools. In them thousands of children are brought under the personal religious influence and teaching of men and women in whose hearts the love of God burns brightly." Speaking of the apathy of a large number of the adult poor as regards any religious observance of the Sabbath, or recognition of any life beyond the body, he says: "You may infer from this state of things what the deplorable condition of the children is in regard to spiritual development. Therefore there is the more urgent need for the extended efforts of this Ragged School Union, by whose personal labours many of these neglected may be won to a better and higher life."

Mr. Morley gave something more than words on its behalf, for on many occasions he responded liberally with his purse when the Society felt called upon to appeal for funds, and his liberality to local efforts was considerable. His charity began at home. The Mission at Brackley Street, conducted chiefly and sustained by the Christian young men of 18, Wood Street, was always sure of help when needed. A short time since, for the extension of the Ragged Schools and Mission work of Dove Row, Hackney, he gave the handsome sum of £200. And George Yard Ragged School, Miss Robarts's work at Kingsland, Dr. Barnardo, and very many others, came in for a share of his munificent liberality. As indicative of Mr. Morley's attachment to, and interest in, the local Ragged Schools to the very last, we append a copy of the following letter received by Mr. J. Kirk a short time ago:—

"18, Wood Street, London, E.C.

"Dear Sir,—In reply to your letter, I write to say that my respect for yourself, and my thorough belief in the work you are doing, leads me to assure you that it will be a pleasure to give £100 towards the expenditure you are proposing to make at Camberwell.

"Truly yours,

"Mr. John Kirk." "S. MORLEY."

His illness prevented him from presiding at the opening of the new Ragged School, Stephen-the-Yeoman, Marigold Place, Bermondsey.

In closing this notice of so distinguished a friend of the poor, we cannot find any words more expressive of our sense of his irreparable loss than these of the prophet,—

"HOWL, FIR TREE, FOR THE CEDAR HATH FALLEN."

At the Committee meeting of the Ragged School Union, held on Friday, September 10th, it having been reported that Mr. Samuel Morley, one of the Vice-Presidents, had been taken to his rest, the following resolution was thereupon proposed by the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, seconded by Mr. Charles Montague, and unanimously agreed to:—

"That this Committee having heard with deep regret of the death of Mr. Samuel Morley, who was one of their Vice-Presidents, and who for many years was conspicuous for his sympathy with the objects of the Ragged School Union, as shown by the help so kindly afforded to it by liberal donations in seasons of emergency, and for his other generous assistance to many of the local schools, desire to convey their sincerest sympathy and condolence to Mrs. Morley and the other members of his bereaved family for the great and irreparable loss they have sustained."

CHEAP FOOD AND CHEAP COOKING.

SELECTIONS FROM A VALUABLE PAMPHLET BY THE REV. W. MOORE EDE, M.A., RECTOR OF GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.

(*Continued from April Number, page 75.*)

Constituents of Food.

The first economy, whether we consider either health or the expenditure of money, is to secure that the food consumed shall not exceed the amount required to replace wear-and-tear—*i.e.*, for a working man in full employment it should not exceed 23½oz. of solid food per diem, and this should be so selected as to provide him with albumen, nitrogen, and fat, in the proportions of one fat to two nitrogen to nine carbon. I have here a table giving in a clear form the constituents of some of the chief kinds of food.

Table showing the proportions of the chief constituents contained in 100 *pounds of the following kinds of food:—*

	lb. Water.	lb. Albumen.	lb. Fat.	lb. Carbon.
Beef	73	20	5	—
Veal	77	19	4	—
Mutton	48-75	16	6-36	—
Pork	47-72	17	6-36	—
Herring	46	19	16-18	—
Egg	73	13	13	—

	lb. Water.	lb. Albumen.	lb. Fat.	lb. Carbon.
Milk	87	3½	3½	4½
Common Cheese	40-50	44	7	6
Peas	14	23	2	56
Beans	13	24	2½	53
Lentils	12	25	1½	55
Whole Meal	14	9	1½	54
Oatmeal	10	15	5	63
Rice	13	7	¾	77
White Bread	38	7	½	53
Potatoes	75	1½	—	21
Beer	91	1	—	8½

Flesh Meat Not Necessary.

In considering these tables the following points are worthy of note:—1. All three elements of nutrition can be obtained from the vegetable kingdom, so that there is no need to have recourse to animal food. There may be certain advantages in so doing, as meat contains the requisite nutrition in a more concentrated form, but a perfectly nutritious diet can be obtained without resorting to flesh.* 2. There is even a larger amount of all-essential element—the flesh-forming nitrogen—in peas, beans, and lentils than there is in beef, veal, or mutton—viz., an average of 24 per cent. as against 18½ per cent. in meat. 3. If we consider the question of the amount of nutriment obtained by a given expenditure of money in the different kinds of food, we find that cheese stands at the head of the list of animal food, being more than three times as cheap as beef—*i.e.*, a shilling spent on cheese will purchase more than three times the amount of nutriment in a shilling's-worth of beef. Hence the wisdom of those agricultural labourers who make bread and cheese their main articles of diet. If we glance at the vegetable food we find that the amount of nutrition obtained by the expenditure of one shilling in all kinds of pulse is greatly in excess of the amount procured by the purchase of cheese—nearly half as much again. Again, oatmeal, in consequence of its superiority in nitrogenous material, is more nutritious and more economical than wheatmeal, and far more so than the ordinary bread of fine white flour, from which the most nutritive portions of the wheat have been carefully excluded. From these

* "The meat-eater's digestion is taxed with a far less quantity of solid; but that very concentration in regard of quantity entails on some stomachs an expenditure of force in digestion equal to that required by the vegetable-eater to assimilate his much larger portions."—Sir H. Thompson: *Food and Feeding.*

tables, which are, I believe, thoroughly reliable, it is manifest that the most economical diet is a purely vegetarian one, and that after, perhaps, some temporary inconvenience arising from change of habit, a man ought to be able to maintain himself in full vigour on a diet of peas, beans, lentils, and oatmeal, washed down by skimmed milk, at a very small expenditure. The working power of an oatmeal-fed Scotch peasant is well known. But I fear most people, and certainly most working people, would refuse on any plea of economy to confine themselves to such a dietary. Intelligent cooking may produce an almost endless variety of palatable and savoury dishes without having recourse to a particle of animal food. Most of these dishes are exceedingly cheap. There is a little book published by Dr. Nichols on "How to Spend Sixpence," in which a number of various recipes are given; and the sixpennyworth of food provided would in every case be found palatable, and quite as much as an average man would require to consume.

A Scientific System.

In the German army the nutritive value of the food supplied for the daily rations is calculated to the utmost nicety. The writer quotes from a book in his possession which gives a list of recipes in use at the People's Kitchens at Berlin—cheap eating-houses for the working classes, where dinners are provided at a cost of 2½d. for a full portion, 1½d. for a half portion, and where over 2,000,000 such dinners are sold yearly. To these recipes an accurate statement is annexed, giving the nutritive value of each food. In the *menu* of a week's dinners supplied at the Workmen's Steam Kitchen at Stockholm, an accurate calculation has been made of the nutritive value of the different constituents, and they have been so arranged as to secure that each portion or help shall contain the desired amount of nitrogen, fat, and starch. To go back to our first illustration: In this way as much care is taken to provide the human engine with the kind and quantity of the articles it consumes as my friend the manufacturer takes in selecting and feeding the stomach of the engine of his factory, where all his motive power is generated, and in one case, as in the other, the most perfect economy results.

Economical Cooking.

Economy in cooking may be divided into two heads—1. Prevention of loss as regards quantity. 2. Prevention of destruction or deterioration of the nutritive properties of the food. First, as regards quantity—

Meat when roasted in the ordinary way loses one-third of its original weight, or $5\frac{1}{3}$ oz. in the lb.

Meat when boiled loses $4\frac{2}{7}$ oz. in every lb.

Meat when baked loses $3\frac{5}{9}$ oz. in every lb.

What has become of the portion which has disappeared? Part consists of a portion of the water of the meat which has been evaporated, but no inconsiderable portion of that which has escaped consists of the most valuable, the most volatile, the most savoury portion. The smell of cooking pervades the atmosphere—*i.e.*, the air is saturated with some of the nutritious portion of the meat—so much so that a cook engaged all the morning in cooking has not much appetite for dinner, as she has been literally feeding all the time she has been stooping over the fire superintending the preparation of dinner. Can this most valuable and savoury portion be prevented from escaping up the chimney, and placed on the table to help in feeding hungry mortals? Yes, it can, by means of a Warren's pot. It consists of one saucepan placed within another. The meat to be cooked is put into the inner pan, and water is placed in the outer vessel. The fire heats the water in the outer vessel up to 212 degrees, or boiling point, and the heat passes from the water into the inner pan, and warms or cooks the food in the inner vessel, and as the food in the inner pan cannot reach boiling point, very little evaporation takes place, and as the lid is firmly closed, little smell, and consequently but little nutriment escapes. From theory let us come to facts. At Cambridge Barracks 15 lb. of meat cooked by the ordinary process was found to weigh when cooked only 10 lb. 2 oz. The same quantity and quality cooked in a Warren's pot was found to weigh when cooked 12 lb. 1 oz. —a gain of 1 lb. 5 oz. in 15 lb. A small matter that may appear. But suppose we are cooking for the English people, numbering some 30,000,000, and allowing them at the rate of 4 oz. per day, and taking the price of meat at an average of 8d. per lb., that small economy represents a saving of £11,000,000 per annum—a very considerable sum.

In the *Pall Mall Gazette* of January 26th is an able and amusing article entitled "Failures of Inept Vegetarians," by an Expert. It closes thus:—"To any one about to abandon carnivorous ways, I respectfully offer the following scraps of advice:—Don't try to live on rice pudding and cabbage. Don't mistake for hunger the disquietude caused by the change of habit; if you gave up beer or potatoes only you would feel just the same. Don't eat too much. To find the proper quantity without actual measurement of nitrogen, guess at the equivalent of a beefsteak in brown bread, peas, beans, or haricots, and you will get an approximately correct result by dividing your

guess by six. Do not expect to like porridge and lentils in their naked simplicity. Boil oatmeal porridge for twenty minutes; and if you think the result mere oatmeal and water, try boiling it for two hours. If you still think it as unpalatable as dry bread, treat it as you treat the bread; stir up a bounteous lump of butter in it, and do not forget the salt. In eating wheatmeal porridge, remember that there's nothing so becomes a man as moderation and an admixture of stewed fruit. If you want fancy dishes make them for yourself out of plainly cooked vegetables, with the help of rice and the cruet stand; and do not be seduced by messy pies, entrées, or such weak concessions to the enemy as 'vegetable rabbit,' 'vegetable sausage,' and the like. 'Vegetable goose' is, however, to be commended when in season. It is simply a vegetable marrow with sage stuffing and apple sauce. Remember that brown bread is a good familiar creature, and worth more than its weight in flesh. Don't attribute every qualm you feel to a breakdown of your constitution for want of meat. And, above all, don't, when you dine out, forewarn your hostess that you are a vegetarian."

RAGGED SCHOOLS AND THE RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.

By an Outsider.

It is not an uncommon thing, even in these days of universally diffused information, to meet people who hold the opinion that Ragged Schools have done their work. No doubt there was a time, these folks will tell you, when London swarmed with neglected children, when the education of the poor was left to volunteer teachers, and the churches had not yet waked up to their responsibilities. But that was many years ago, before the passing of Mr. Forster's Education Act, before—well, before a great many things had happened which belong to ancient history. Every one now can read. The Bitter Cry of Outcast London has brought the West to the East with all sorts of noble gifts, and before many months a "Palace for the People" is to be opened in Whitechapel.

Some of this may be true. It would be grievous indeed if London were not the better for all the noble lives which have been spent in it, the brighter by reason of the army of workers who by day and night have so long zealously endeavoured to lighten the exceeding thick darkness. But it is far away yet from being in a position to dispense with its Ragged Schools. The changing circumstances of changing times, the spread of secular education, the broadening

down of freedom, the transfer of political power to the masses, have not removed out of the land poverty, and vice, and ignorance. There are still slums in London; the poor are with us always; and from the homes of these poor in those slums daily rises the sorrowful cry, "Come and help us."

The most pitiful cry is that of the children of such homes, and it is in responding to it that the Ragged School teacher finds his vocation. If these little ones are to be lifted out of the mire into which so many of them are born they must have an education fitted to their needs. It is not so much the dormant faculties of their heads which must be *led out* as those of their hearts. To teach them to read, to write, to cypher, is important, but it is much more important to see to it, that while they are obtaining these accomplishments they are softened in manners, and are brought within the kingdom of God's dear Son. The master and mistress of an ordinary elementary school must devote their energies entirely to the attainment of one end—that is, to satisfy the demands of "The Code," to see to it that their scholars reach a given standard within a given time. The master or mistress of a Ragged School, on the other hand, while mindful of the necessity of imparting all possible secular information, is chiefly anxious to compensate the scholar for the miseries of his condition, to be to him much that his parents should be, and to civilise him in the highest sense of the word. It is cause for deep regret that in so many quarters it should be taken for granted that the days of such schools are numbered. Time enough to talk about closing their doors when there are no longer thousands of wastrel children in London needing the salvation which the Ragged School can give them.

Happily the Sunday School for such neglected ones is not likely to disappear for lack of support. In how many cases is such a school the centre of a Mission which sheds streams of light all about a dark neighbourhood? Through the children the parents are reached, and so naturally come into active existence Mothers' Meetings, Gospel Services, Temperance Societies, Savings Banks, no end of beneficent organisations, all working towards the same good result.

To picture all these Missions—outcomes of Ragged Schools—hard at work in the great city is to bring encouragement to the Christian heart. The times cannot be quite "out of joint" in which so many men and women freely give of their time and strength to spread the knowledge of Christ's gospel and to soften the hard lot of the poor. These workers are soldiers at the outposts; they are in continual conflict with the enemy, a foe who never sleeps, and is as powerful as he is cunning. But for the conviction that their Master and Leader is

still more powerful, and that He is ever at hand to guide and strengthen, hopeless were their task.

It is well that such workers should feel that they are part of an army. A temptation which besets the members of many missions is the desire to be like Hal o' the Wynd and "fight for their own hands"—to be guerillas, not regulars. No doubt even singly they will do much good, but strength and hope none the less come from the knowledge that one belongs to an armed and trained band.

Here shows the need for and the great value of an institution like the Ragged School Union. Through the Union all the Ragged Schools in the kingdom come into touch. By the Union the committees of these schools are guided and helped in a hundred ways. From the Union come grants of money, and the wise counsels which are the result of accumulated knowledge, and are of more value than much gold. It is no exaggeration to call it the heart of the system, without which the life of the various members could not continue. More than forty-two years have passed since the Ragged School Union was formed. During this long period it has been the stay of much of the most successful mission work in the metropolis. It has given the needed help to causes struggling into existence, and it has encouraged and assisted all its affiliated schools in every possible way. By the frequent visits of its agents the workers are cheered and strengthened, and the scholars themselves are steadied in their efforts to walk in the paths of peace by the prizes for good conduct which the Union gives. When an *apologia* for the life of the Ragged School Union is demanded, there will be little difficulty in writing one which shall be most complete. The fact that it has existed and thriven for nearly half a century, and that so many men and women engaged in mission work in London continually turn to its Committee and their agents for help and advice, is proof enough that it is a necessity.

Meanwhile it is desirable that such workers should even more persistently remember that they are connected with a strong Union, and that they have a right in all their times of anxiety and need to appeal to it for assistance. The mere knowledge that through the Union they are linked with all who in London and England are toiling at the same great task, cannot but strengthen many an arm otherwise likely to hang down. That such gentlemen as Mr. Kirk and Mr. Curtis, who have given years of careful thought to the furtherance of the varied agencies which make up the Ragged School Union, are always at hand with advice and suggestions, ought to encourage those in difficulties to go forward.

It was an absolute necessity that the work of the various Ragged Schools should be centralised and given a directness of purpose.

Otherwise much labour must have been thrown away where assuredly none can be spared. But this fact, recognised in the establishment and continuance of the Ragged School Union, is too often ignored, not wilfully perhaps, but simply from want of thought. Thus it is not well that the managers of a school or mission, having received a grant of money, should go on their solitary way unheard of by the Union until the need arises for another grant. The Union belongs to the schools as truly as the schools to the Union; and the Central Committee and local committees are alike responsible for the issue of the work. To both success brings joy, to both failure brings grief. There is something wrong with the connecting wires when what is going forward at the extremities does not make itself felt at the centre. The Union exists that it may rejoice with those who do rejoice as well as minister to the necessities of those who are poor. The more thoroughly all concerned realise this and act accordingly, the better will it be for the whole Ragged School movement.

Schools and Union, the two cannot exist apart. Because of the schools, and the Union which is their outward and visible sign, seen and recognised of the world, London and England are greatly the richer and the nobler. The faithful labour of a multitude of praying men and women during forty years has produced a result for good, which even the most careless observer may see. These exertions, greater and more blessed than those of Hercules, must go on. Workers will cultivate that sweet virtue patience, and "learn to labour and to wait," and entire success will come by-and-by. The desert of poor London will yet rejoice and blossom as the rose, and all her courts and alleys will be glad. J. M.

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAYS.

The two subjoined letters (from Mr. J. Kirk, the secretary) have had, by the kindness of the newspaper editors, a very wide circulation in various quarters, and they were the means of kindling sympathy and interest on behalf of the children, and evoking practical assistance, for which the deepest gratitude is felt.

The information they afford in a compact pertinent form will suffice to acquaint our readers with our plans in respect to Summer Holidays for the poor children of our schools. Considering this, and the somewhat frequent references to the subject previously, it will suffice if we

now indicate briefly how far these good intentions have been realised.

"A Day in the Country.

The Committee of the Ragged School Union earnestly appeal for help to provide means for some of the poor children of the Ragged Schools to see the green fields and to breathe the fresh air.

Some of the one hundred and ninety London Ragged Schools and Missions are not able to collect funds, or to undertake the children's holiday. To prevent disappointment, for more than thirty years, good Lord Shaftesbury was wont to plead for the necessary means to enable the Committee of the Ragged School Union to gather up these arrears, and to see that none of the children of his beloved Ragged Schools were deprived of their treat.

Last year by this means over one thousand six hundred children enjoyed a delightful day in Bushey Park, besides subsidies being given to many of the other Ragged Schools.

The Committee feel sure that, although the potent voice is silent, the children he befriended will not this season be disappointed of their 'day in the country.'

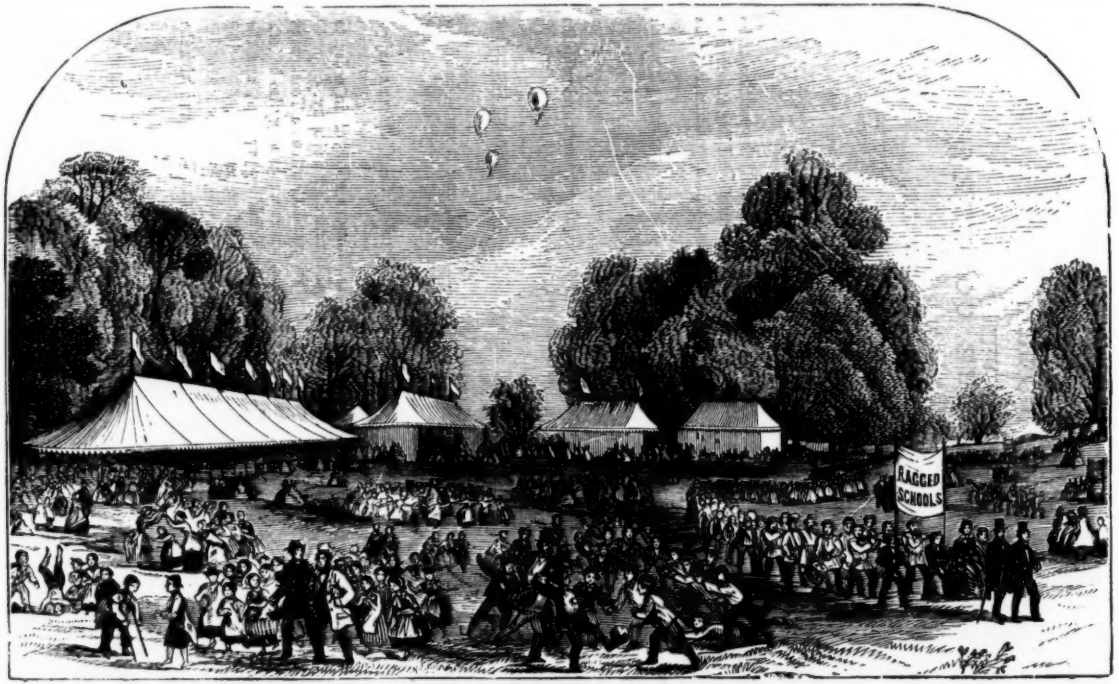
For some years also a goodly few (over six hundred last year) of the weakly ailing children have been singled out for the more lasting benefit of a whole fortnight in the country.

The country cottages have been used, and, in addition, the Committee have secured the possession of two houses as 'Holiday Homes,' the one on a wild lovely common in Surrey, and the other in a beautiful part of Sussex. Here already successive fortnightly relays of sixty children are being sent, to their lasting physical and moral benefit.

The parents and the local committee share in the cost, and thus the pleasure is widened and the expense of the holiday distributed.

The number who will obtain the boon this year, after the long, trying winter, either for the one day or for the fourteen days, will depend upon the kind response from your ever-generous readers."

The Day's Outing was all that could be desired. The day fixed was Tuesday, July 20th, and the place Bushey Park. There were fourteen separate schools in the excursion, with an aggregate of 2,300 children and teachers. These were conveyed by the South-Western, the Chatham and Dover, the Metropolitan, and North London Railways to Teddington Station, one school only using the vans by road. The day was beautifully fine, and the noble park, with its famed avenue of chestnuts, its extensive palace and grounds, never looked more lovely



RAGGED SCHOOL CHILDREN IN BUSHEY PARK.

Each teacher was furnished with a printed programme of instructions as hereunder:—

RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.

"DAY IN THE COUNTRY,"

AT

BUSHEY PARK, HAMPTON COURT,

On Tuesday, July 20th, 1886.

TEACHERS' PROGRAMME.

8 o'clock a.m. Children assemble at School and prepare for starting by Vans or Train.

11.0 (about). On arrival at Bushey Park (Hampton Court end) the position to be occupied by the School will be indicated by the numbered flag attached to the tree in the order given on the other side, which position is to be retained throughout the day.

12.0. Children seated under their respective trees to eat the luncheon pie which will be obtained by the Teachers from the Provision Tent.

1.0 p.m. Luncheon for Teachers and friends in the Marquee.

2.30. Distribution of Skipping Ropes, Sweets, and Games.

3.30. Children's Tea. Seat them under numbered tree and get mugs and supplies of food from the Marquee.

5.0. Tea for Teachers in the Marquee.

6.30. Preparations for starting homewards: line to be formed according to number for march to Teddington Station.

N.B.—The printed ticket should be retained by each child, and it would be advisable to have it stitched on the right breast of the younger ones, for the sake of ready identity in case of loss.

It is specially requested that the Teachers will make the Children's enjoyment the first consideration.

The Teacher's Ticket must be shown at the Marquee entrance in order to prevent the uninvited partaking of the Committee's hospitality.

Accommodation will be provided for both Lady and Gentlemen Teachers at *Mrs. Powell's Cottage* near the Park Gates, where wraps may also be left.

The luncheon pies, food for the tea, water for drinking purposes, and the games, will all be supplied from the tent to the Teachers.

If you have a School Banner, please to bring it with you.

Great care is needful with the Children on the tops of the Vans, and with the Railway Carriage-Doors.

May God give a fine day without mishap.

EXETER HALL, W.C. JOHN KIRK, *Secretary*.

The catering was excellently done by Messrs. Earee and Co., the refreshment contractors of Hackney Road. The holiday passed off without mishap, and to the evident enjoyment of all concerned.

"HOLIDAY HOMES FOR POOR CHILDREN.

For many years the Committee of the Ragged School Union have been wont to transfer some of the enfeebled children of the local schools and mission centres from the close atmosphere of the London court to the health-giving air of the country. Begun originally in a desultory way, mainly through the private liberality of the late Lord Shaftesbury, it has greatly developed, and this summer, if the necessary funds are forthcoming, not less than 1,000 weaklings will enjoy the benefit of at least a fortnight's change, as against 600 of last year.

At first the children were all boarded out amongst the villagers, but it was soon found that separate homes would be preferable for a portion of the poor children, as bath and special dietary arrangements could be ensured with personal influences of the best kind. Whilst using largely carefully selected cottages, the Committee have opened three separate 'Holiday Homes' in rural places about thirty miles from London, the last one in the hop district, consisting of an old-fashioned cottage, embosomed in flowers, kindly offered ready furnished and free of rent, for the benefit of the poor children. Space is also reserved for the benefit of the elder scholars, many of whom, though young in years, are old in toil, and have, in not a few instances, never before enjoyed two consecutive days' outing. The Homes, moreover, are useful to a limited extent all through the winter, to meet special cases of convalescence, which are constantly occurring amongst the 190 affiliated Ragged Schools, with their aggregate of 50,000 scholars. Will your readers help to sustain a movement which brings untold good to the entire community?"

These fortnightly holidays have thus been resumed and continued on a more extended scale than formerly, and the movement bids fair to become a most extensive and important branch of the multiform operations of the Union. A pleasing feature of the work has been the offer of kind friends in the country to entertain either wholly or in part some of the ailing children. In this respect Miss Courtauld's kindness, which has this season been renewed, has given a stimulating precedent for others to go and do likewise. A lady of title in Gloucestershire has had some children entertained in cottages from time to time. A friend at Salisbury has done something, besides many others. Perhaps the most interesting offer received was that of two quite young ladies in Hertfordshire, who, at their cost of money and time, had fitted up a cottage in the garden of their pleasant home for the purpose of having some children to entertain and to benefit. This

scheme originated entirely with themselves, and with mamma's counsel and help of a maid these Good Samaritans realised the greatest pleasure and interest in their animated doll's house. Children have, in addition, gone to Witham, to Chadwell Heath, to Folkestone, Halstead and neighbourhood, &c. Cottages at these places have been used under judicious supervision to the manifest enjoyment and benefit of the youthful health and pleasure seekers. All this has been in addition to the Holiday Homes—No. 1 at Thursley, No. 2 at East Grinstead—both of which have been fully used from the early spring.

The local friends have been very generous and kind. Gifts of vegetables, treats for the children, pleasant calls and intercourse, have come with a thoughtfulness and frequency for which we are most thankful. Early in July an offer came unexpectedly of the free use of a furnished cottage at Brenchley, a charmingly-situated village in the midst of the hop gardens of Kent. The offer was readily accepted, and the place opened immediately as Holiday Home No. 3, and has been in active use since. The Rev. F. Storr, the vicar, has taken a deep interest in the Home, and has succeeded in enlisting the help of many local friends. There are many points of interest which make themselves felt in connection with these holidays. "Never before have we got into the home life so thoroughly," says one teacher. "It has lifted the veil, and shown us many of the trials and sorrows of the poor that we never knew before." The experiences, too, of the elder scholars reveal much that is saddening in their daily life. The children also, as they contrast the abundance of food with the empty cupboard at home, or the familiarity with the dram and pawn shop, often reveal phases of life most pitiful to know. To get the comforts of a Home, with wholesome food, fresh air, country delights and novelties, associated with a sunny atmosphere of religion and a Christian home, cannot fail to produce the best physical, moral, and spiritual results. Not a few children have received religious impressions, and have given evidence of a real change of heart. Ere this is read, all being well, the total number thus benefited since the spring of the present year will be one thousand and twenty, thus fulfilling the prayerfully expressed wish in a previous number that the then little effort—the one—might become a thousand.

A GIRLS' MOVEMENT.

In the *Sunday Magazine* for March is an article by Miss Ellice Hopkins on one of the burning questions of the time. The paper opens with two graphic sketches of girls in the higher and lower spheres of life, and represents what they are by birth, education, and daily surroundings, and also draws a vivid picture of the straits to which factory girls are reduced in their leisure hours. The streets are uproarious with their hilarity and horse-play when they are returning from work. Where else, she asks, can they let off the steam? They reach their homes; but what are their homes? Some of them live with their parents, but to some of them home means a fireless bedroom, or, rather, generally the corner of one, and a meal to be taken anyhow in a house where they are not particularly wanted. These girls' overstrained bodies need food well cooked, but the mother of the house was a factory girl herself; she never learned to cook, and she is too old and tired to learn now. They need quiet and rest after the long day of jarring noise, but all their life is full of noise. With half a dozen people in one small room there is not much chance of quiet. And for recreation it is the street, or the low music-hall, or the dancing saloon.

Of the cultured girls, with whom Miss Hopkins has intimate connections, she says, "When they have done their morning's lessons or work, we hear a babble and a laughter on the stairs; a rush as of many wings in the passage; the garden door bursts open, and we see them tearing round the garden, 'drinking the wind of their speed.'"

These girls, the writer states, were meant to be the complement of one another, and we have divorced what He has joined together. "Why has all this culture and brightness and purifying influence been given to us upper-class women? Why are we able to lavish it on our own girls, except that we and they may be the better able to help? Is not life purposely made on this terribly unequal plan in order to make it impossible to accept it for us or for our children on a self-basis, except at the cost of inner baseness?" She thanks God that many girls of the cultured class are beginning to feel earnestly after a more organic Christianity. They are beginning to grasp what is the central truth of Christianity—not simply a personal salvation, saving our own souls, making ourselves comfortable in this world and safe for the next, but a life poured out for the good of the world, and personal salvation in order to have a life to pour out. The writer describes the origin and growth of the girls' movement at Nottingham.

To get the girls was easy enough, but the success of the club lay in keeping them. Three conditions are named:—

1st. You must put up with democracy pure and simple. Young ladies who were determined to stand on their dignity have found their clubs attended only by children; while petting is deprecated.

The second difficulty is as yet very imperfectly treated at all. It refers to bodily exercise. She says, "Young Men's Christian Associations recognise this fundamental fact of the manly frame. Many of them have splendid gymnasiums attached to their premises. But for our poor girls, tingling as they are with animal spirits, and full of what may be called the black kitten, we have nothing more exhilarating to offer than a sewing class or 'quiet games.'"

The third difficult corner is what in Cambridgeshire we call "the min." "God has formed our human life on the pattern of the family, but man proceeds on the safer plan of separating what God has joined together." Her arguments for bringing the sexes together on stated occasions are admirably put.

What the writer suggests are frequent open evenings, when the educated girls would bring their fathers, brothers, or lovers, and the girls bring their brothers or sweethearts; and on such occasions let there be a display of native talent, with singing and recitations. This powerful paper closes with the remark that the difficulty, as regards help, lies not with young girls, but with their parents; and further, parents are admonished that there is but one condition of discipleship if they want their girls to be Christians. "As the Father sent me into the world, even so I send them into the world."

I have quoted freely from this able paper, which deserves to be printed separately and circulated as a small pamphlet. To realise the importance of the topic treated—namely, the girls' movement,—it must be read in its entirety.

AN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FETE.

It was a happy day for the children of the King Edward Certified Industrial School, and for the children of the sister school of St. Andrew Road, Cambridge Heath. For several years it has been the practice of Mr. H. R. Williams to entertain them in his own grounds. To some 200 poor children this annual day is not only the day of the year, but the day of their lives—a day never to be forgotten. All that kindness can devise and carry out is done by Mr. and Mrs. Williams and family to provide a season of unalloyed delight. Besides which a numerous circle of friends are invited to a Garden Party, at

which an improvised Prize Meeting is held. On this occasion some 300 guests were present, among whom were Professor Leone Levi, Professor Tomlinson, Sir James Tyler, the Rev. Dr. Tyler, the Rev. Dr. White, the Rev. R. C. Billing, M.A., the Rev. James Jacques, M.A., the Rev. Alfred Rowland, B.A., the Rev. J. M. Gibbon, Mr. Cory-Wright, Mr. Hugh Owen, Dr. Groves, Dr. Clothier, Mr. J. H. Lloyd (Hon. Secretary), Mr. Montague (Superintendent of the King Edward Ragged Schools), Messrs. Hoon, Orsman, Kirk, and Curtis (of the Ragged School Union), and many others interested in philanthropic and Christian work. A short statement was made by Mr. J. H. Lloyd, in which it was mentioned that during the year 57 girls had been sent out to situations, and 48 new girls had been admitted to the schools. The total number of inmates at the schools was now 187. The interesting ceremony of giving the rewards to the girls who had kept their first places for a year, and which was performed for several years by the late Earl of Shaftesbury, was on this occasion undertaken by Mr. H. R. Williams, who was assisted by Professor Leone Levi and the Rev. R. C. Billing. After the rewards to the girls who had retained the medals were awarded, the number being 19, further medals were given to 13 girls for special good behaviour during the year. Prizes followed for excellence in household work, ironing, cooking, and various other handy arts, the prizes being books of the value of 8s. each. The number of recipients was 22. Each girl could obtain 1,000 good marks, but as a rule this was so high a goal that few ever reached it. A large number had, however, gained several hundred marks, and for these money prizes were given.

The meeting was enlivened with good singing. Mr. J. G. Gent, of the Ragged School Union, said some kind words about the late Earl, after which the Rev. J. M. Gibbon and Professor Tomlinson united in a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Williams, which was carried with acclamation.

"THE ENTHUSIASM OF HUMANITY."

THE second annual meeting of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children was held some time since in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children is the counterpart to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Lord Shaftesbury was its first president, and the last public meeting over which he presided before his fatal illness was the first annual meeting of this Society. The meeting was influentially attended. The chair was taken at first by the Duke of Abercorn, but the Lord Mayor succeeded him before the

report was read, and among those on the platform were the Earl of Iddesleigh, Cardinal Manning, the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, Mr. Samuel Smith, M.P., Mr. W. H. Collingridge, Mr. Kegan Paul, Colonel Sir Francis Burdett, Mr. H. J. Wilson, M.P., &c. The Lord Mayor bore personal testimony to the actual necessity which existed for the working of this Society.

The Rev. B. WAUGH, the hon. secretary of the Society, read an extract from the report:—

"During the year the committee had dealt with no less than 147 cases, chiefly of the crimes of parents, involving the wretchedness of 327 little victims, including forty cases of savage assault with boots, fists, rope, pokers—with anything, indeed, which came readiest to hand, the provocation, if any, being always some childish, trifling affair. Of this class of cases there were thirteen less than in the previous year, which was attributed mainly to the severe sentences given to brutes by many of the magistrates, and the manly indignation with which they had been pronounced. Other cases were of gradual starving, and wickedly wilful exposure, having a direct and designed tendency to kill. Of this class, including two cases, where the child had attempted suicide, there were twenty-seven. The third class of cases were of culpable and serious neglect, largely of countless mothers 'drunk and free.' A fourth class consisted of seventeen little street money-gatherers for their drunken, hypocritical, and worthless owners; pale, cold little frames, which were a good stock in trade, especially in rain, or at night."

Mr. Waugh pointed out the effects of a brutal hand and libellous tongue in driving children out from home, and producing the class of delinquents known as "found wandering." A fifth class of cases were described as the most odious of vices to the conscience of the country—the corruption and mutilation of little girls. Whereas last year the committee had twelve cases, since the passing of the Criminal Law Amendment Act it had had only three. One great cause of this diminution, it was said, was the removal from the Statute Book of the necessity of understanding an oath in order that tiny girls might give evidence, and the penal servitude to which the crime now certainly brings.

The Earl of IDDESLEIGH, who moved the adoption of the report, claimed that the Society deserved their very hearty support, because it was essential that there should be some such Society to bring pressure to bear upon Parliament to carry legislation which was necessary for the prevention of cruelty to helpless children, and to see that the police and the magistrates—some of whom equally wanted looking after—carried the legislation into effect. He pointed out, too, what

Mr. Waugh has probably learned a long while ago—that it is not so much the ruffianly-looking man as the apparently respectable one who needed to be looked after.

Mr. KEGAN PAUL seconded the motion.

The meeting was ably addressed by the Duke of Abercorn, Mr. S. Smith, M.P., Cardinal Manning, and others, congratulating the Society on the splendid success of its first effort in legislation, and commending the new Bill for the Protection of Children to the attention of both Houses of Parliament.

A FLOWER SERVICE AT THE KING EDWARD RAGGED SCHOOLS AND MISSION, SPITALFIELDS.

FOR many years the flower services held in the above schools have been a great delight to the aged poor who are too feeble to get to the Victoria Park, and who seldom see any flowers except upon a costermonger's barrow. Few there be outside the actual workers amongst the poor who understand how they love flowers. To very many flowers bring back early memories of better and happier days, and with these memories frequently a yearning after holier and higher things.

The services were held this year on Sunday, July 18th. The large room was beautifully decorated. From the central arch were suspended fruit and flowers in great variety, while creeping plants gracefully hung from large wire baskets kindly lent for the occasion by the government wire-workers. On the platform had been erected a gallery, upon which were displayed beautiful pot plants in great profusion and of the choicest description, having come from some of the finest gardens and conservatories in England. The flowers were in a great measure the gifts of the Royal Family and some seventy members of the nobility. Valuable contributions were sent from Windsor, Sandringham, Bagshot, Kensington Palace, &c., thus showing the kindly sympathy for the poor that is felt by the highest in the land. H.R.H. the Princess of Wales sent Mr. Montague a splendid basket of the choicest roses (see illustration). The basket, measuring some three feet across, was beautifully arranged with roses, ferns, &c., and was greatly admired by the poor people of the district. All day long on Saturday Mr. Montague and his willing helpers had been labouring, arranging the flowers in the hall, and making up over 1,700 bunches, to be given to the sick and the poor, to gladden by their fragrance and sweetness many a humble home and weary, painstricken sufferer.

Three services were held on the day: first in the morning, for the parents of the children attending the schools (and this has always proved exceedingly useful in winning their interest and introducing them to the habit of coming to the Gospel services at the hall); then in the afternoon, for the boys and girls from ten to sixteen; and in the evening, for the elder scholars (over sixteen). It has long been a special feature at King Edward Schools, the way in which the elder

scholars (both lads and young women) are got hold of and retained. At each service the hall was crowded to the door, and the Gospel was faithfully and clearly preached.

In the morning the service was conducted by Mr. Thomas Walker and the hymns given out by Mr. R. J. Curtis, of the Ragged School Union; in the afternoon by the Rev. Dr. Tyler and Mr. George Nokes, and in the evening by Mr. Rowe and Mr. J. G. Gent.

FRESH AIR AND CHANGE FOR THE POOR.

On Tuesday, the 29th of June, we spent an hour or two at Theydon Bois enjoying the real delight of seeing some eleven hundred East-end children, elder scholars, and mothers, thoroughly and heartily happy in the greenfields and among the wild flowers. It was the annual outing of the King Edward Ragged Schools, Youths' Institute, and Christian Mission, and young and old made a right good day of it. Their devoted teachers, with Mr. Montague at the head, threw themselves with zest and vigour into the task of delighting and amusing. Knowing, as we do well, the real and thorough work done at King Edward Street, we were glad to observe the genuine interest shown in the happiness of these poor East-enders.

One feature we heard of, by the way, struck us as specially good. In Spitalfields there are, as elsewhere, many worn-out and weary widows and others who have to toil on for a bare subsistence, well-nigh breaking down in the struggle. On behalf of such Mr. Montague has made arrangements for board in country cottages, giving each found in real need of such a change a free week in the country, paying board, railway fares, &c. And besides, by way of making them really comfortable, the ladies have provided a number of complete outfits, dresses, underclothing, &c., so that the old ladies may not be ashamed to walk about and enjoy the fresh air. In their only wear, as they are at home, few of them could venture outside the door.

Pearl Fisher.

COLONIAL AND INDIAN EXHIBITION.

The arrangements graciously conceived by the president, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, for enabling working men and their families to visit the Exhibition at a cheap rate, have been extended to the children and their parents of our schools and missions.

The concession (a material one, as children can gain admittance for 1½d. and parents for 3d.) has been generally appreciated, and with the happiest results. One school has issued already over 1,800 tickets. For the most part the poor people take their own children, anything like an organised school party being difficult from the crowds attending day by day.

To see the products from all parts of the Queen's dominions, to hear the music and witness the illuminations, cannot fail to have most instructive and elevating effects, calculated to foster loyalty and patriotism, and to create joy in not too sunny lives. The arrangements remain in force to the end of October, should any of the school friends not have notified it to the teachers and scholars.

NELSON STREET RAGGED SCHOOL AND MISSION.

We had hoped to have announced the completion of the new building, as everything early in the year gave fair promise of speedy success. Owing, however, to unforeseen difficulties and delays, the new building, although in active progress, will not be finished until the end of the year. The old structure is razed to the ground, but commodious premises have been secured close by as a temporary home, and the work is going on in all its branches with wonted vigour and success.

SCHOLARS' PRIZES, CHRISTMAS, 1886.

The Committee of the Ragged School Union have been in the habit for many years at stated seasons of signifying their intention of continuing the practice of giving Prizes to such of their scholars as have kept their situations with good characters for the year ending December 31st, and who have observed the conditions which always accompany the announcement. The Committee this year will continue the time-honoured practice; but as some of the conditions are under consideration, what changes they may undergo will not be known till after the next Committee meeting, which takes place on the 8th of October.

The usual large sheets for placing conspicuously in the schoolrooms containing the conditions, with the modifications duly noted, will be issued on or before October 15th.

MAGIC LANTERNS AND FRENCH HAND ORGAN.

The winter session of 1886 is now at hand; we therefore beg to remind the superintendents and workers of the Missions, when they draw up their plans for winter amusements, that the Ragged School Union lanterns will again be available, subject to the undermentioned conditions.

"At least a fortnight's previous notice must be given, and in making the application please give size of room and other particulars. The lanterns can be used singly or conjointly for dissolving views, with oil or lime and gas. If the limelight is required, the gas must be provided by the school; if used with oil-light, the best paraffin oil (only) to be used, and great care with the lanterns is necessary at all times. The oil-chambers must be emptied after use. The apparatus must be called for on the day arranged, and returned to the

office the following morning; the expense of porterage to and fro being wholly defrayed by the school using the lantern. All breakages and losses must be made good. The collection of slides is miscellaneous, and includes—'John Tregenoweth,' 'Jane Conquest,' 'Buy Your Own Cherries,' 'Pilgrim's Progress,' 'Prodigal Son,' chromatropes, moveable slides, hymns, &c."

It should be understood that the office cannot hold itself ready to meet any request further than as regards the *loan of the apparatus*. If the services of a lecturer or operator should be required the utmost will be done to oblige, but notice must be given on making the application to Mr. Kirk at the office, Exeter Hall, W.C.

WINTER WORK.

THE following circular has been widely issued:—

"Ragged School Union, Exeter Hall, Strand, W.C.,
"Sept. 9th, 1886.

"DEAR SIR,—The time for the winter session is rapidly approaching. It is hoped that evening work, comprising Night Schools, Youths' Institutes, and other work of a spiritual, social, and recreative character, will be commenced or resumed. I shall be glad when necessary to confer with you, or with your committee, on any matters affecting the school work.

"A line saying what is proposed to be undertaken will greatly oblige.

"I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,
"RICHARD J. CURTIS, *Organising Secretary*."

ANNUAL APPEAL FOR HUNGER AND NAKEDNESS.

WE present with emphasised importunity our annual appeal for the naked and hungry ones connected with our various Ragged Schools, in the hope that we may find gifts in money or kind sent us not only by our old friends, but also by our new friends—by those who are coming forward to fill up the places of some who have gone hence and have heard the Master's words, "I was hungry and ye fed me, naked and ye clothed me."

Please send direct to the Secretary, at the office, Exeter Hall, London.

DAYS OF SPECIAL PRAYER.

A CIRCULAR has been issued by the Sunday School Union relating to the days set apart for prayer, which are Sunday and Monday, October 17th and 18th. It suggests private intercessory prayer, meeting of teachers before school, scholars' prayer meetings, singing, devotional exercises, and addresses on Sunday afternoons. On the Monday—private intercessory prayer, meetings of female teachers for intercessory prayer and thanksgiving, and churches and congregations to be invited to hold meetings having special relation to the young.

The *Committee of the Ragged School Union* earnestly plead for united petition for the Divine blessing to be poured forth upon all efforts to win the erring to Christ, and trust that meetings will be held for this purpose in all affiliated Ragged Schools and Missions.

LIGHT THAT LINGERS.

IT is pleasingly noted that the Hon. Lionel Ashley has consented to become the President of the Lambeth Ragged School, in succession to his late honoured father.

It is also worthy of record that a Ragged School teacher was recently asked to speak to the children of Carter Street, Walworth, at the morning service on the subject of "Shaftesbury."

He was able to give information of great interest to a new generation unfamiliar with the miseries of the past. He also drew several practical lessons from the life of the great good man. He was a true servant of God, a man of prayer, a diligent reader of God's Word, persevering in all his endeavours, and one who in every way sought to let his light shine, so that others, seeing his good works, might glorify his Father in heaven.

REAPING.

"Those who go forth weeping, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again rejoicing, bringing their sheaves with them."

THE Superintendent of the Lamb and Flag Schools, Clerkenwell, sends the following incident as illustrating the power of faith, and the effect of faithful teaching in connection with the very poor children in our Ragged Schools. He says:—"A little time back I had to address our scholars, and wishing to show them that Jesus was very willing to

answer their prayers, I told the story of a poor boy praying for boots, and getting them in answer to prayer. A girl present went home and told the story to her two little brothers, who had been kept from school some time for want of boots. After hearing the story the younger boy said to his brother, 'Suppose we ask Jesus to tell grandfather to send us some boots, like the boy Mr. Bray told sister about.' 'Suppose we do,' said the other. Then both knelt down in the room, and said, 'Please, Jesus, up in heaven, tell our grandfather to send mother some money to buy us some boots, so as we can go to Mr. Bray's school.' The grandfather lives in Yorkshire, and the mother had not heard from him since her husband's death (two years). They asked each morning if the letter had come, telling their mother they felt sure it would. Three days after it came, and, to the surprise of the mother and delight of the boys, there was a money order to buy boots for each of them, and a parcel to follow of good and needful things, which arrived in due time. The boots were bought, the good things were enjoyed, but Jesus was forgotten till two days after, when the younger boy said to his brother Johnny, 'Jesus sent us the money to buy boots and all them nice things to eat, and we never thanked Him; ain't we naughty?' Then both knelt down, and said, 'Good Jesus, we are two wicked boys to forget to thank you, but we are very thankful for the boots and basket of nice things.'

"The mother, a poor, hard-working widow, with little work and three little ones to keep, who has been laid up for three months, feels quite sure the letter came in answer to prayer, as she had never had anything sent to her before."

In Memoriam.

MISS PAUL.
MRS. SHEPPARD.
MR. HERBERT SHAW.

MISS PAUL.

The subject of this brief notice was for many years the mistress of the Day Ragged School at Spicer Street, Spitalfields.

She was eminently fitted for the work she was called to do in the early days of this great movement. She was quiet, gentle, and Christlike. Her whole time was spent in doing good, from early

morn to dewy eve, and into the night, in all seasons of the year, and on Sundays and weekdays. Without fuss or noisy demonstration, she was incessantly active with the children or their parents. Her sweet, orderly, and uncomplaining ways it is a pleasure to recall. A branch of the True Vine, the divine sap that flowed into and through her caused her to effloresce into blossom and bear fruit as quietly as any tree of the garden.

It was her good fortune to end her days with Mrs. Glocklin, of Allen Road, Stoke Newington, who for many years has been associated as a voluntary worker with school and mission work in the North of London. The service and sympathy shown to her by this godly woman it would be impossible to overestimate.

Miss Paul's income was so small as to admit of little else, even with the strictest economy, than justly paying her way. On her retirement some sympathy and occasional aid were shown her by a few old friends, but her principal support came from the Ragged School Union, from a fund specially raised, and which is in need of replenishment, called the "Worn-out Teachers' Fund," which was also taxed to meet funeral expenses.

The kind friend referred to speaks of the delight shown by this aged pilgrim in work for the young. As time wore on, indications were not wanting that the end was approaching. The day before her death she showed signs of unusual weakness, and the end, as indicated, sweetly came.

"We watched her through the night, and on Sunday morning I said, 'Would you like me to read?' She said, 'Yes.' I read that beautiful seventy-first Psalm, so precious to the aged; then prayed that our Heavenly Father would comfort and sustain her while passing through the valley of the shadow of death. Taking her hand I said, 'You are not afraid to die?' Her reply was, 'No.' 'Is Jesus precious to you now?' Again she replied, 'Yes.' 'Do you feel His arm sustaining you?' 'Yes.' Grand dying testimony! May we all be able to give as clear a one in our dying hour."

She fell asleep on July 4th, 1886, at the ripe age of eighty-four, and was buried in Chingford Cemetery.

MRS. SHEPPARD

We little thought when Mrs. Charles Sheppard came to our children's treat at Bushey Park, on July 20th, looking in her usual health, that we should so soon see her remains laid in the Finchley Cemetery For upwards of a quarter of a century the faithful helpmeet of her husband in the conduct of the Islington and North London

Shoeblack Brigade, she combined some of the best characteristics of the earnest, devoted, plodding Ragged School worker. In the midst of her family, on the Sabbath evening of August 1st, she suddenly expired, to the great grief of her husband and two daughters, as well as a wide circle of friends who esteemed her much for her amiable qualities and for her work's sake.

MR. HERBERT SHAW.

THIS faithful servant of Christ died at Chesterfield on the 24th ult., in his forty-third year. He was treasurer and assistant-superintendent of the Chesterfield Ragged Schools, for which he had laboured many years, and was also a member of the Town Mission. The interment took place at Chesterfield Cemetery on the 27th ult., a large number of people following to the grave.

Notices of Books.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION, 56, Old Bailey.

The Sunday School Union, under the conduct of its able editor, aims to produce and circulate books, whether of fact or fiction, that not only instruct the mind, but inform the heart with the highest moral and religious sentiments.

Parents and teachers will find the following books worthy to hold a place among the best specimens of pure literature; they may therefore be safely introduced into the libraries of all our schools for circulation in the homes of the children. We also heartily commend them to the thoughtful consideration of our subscribers, and to all interested in the welfare of the young. They are printed in good readable type, beautifully illustrated, and prettily bound.

Young England. Price 5s.

This is an old favourite, and has lost none of its charm. For an intelligent home this book is a mine of delight and instruction.

The Child's Own Magazine. Profusely Illustrated. Price 1s. 6d.
A capital book for the nursery.

The Horses of the Sun. Price 3s. 6d.

The Ladybird's Tea Party. Price 1s. 6d.

These two fascinating books by James Crowther will show the young mind how glorious and wonderful are the works of God. They are both eye-openers.

Stories for the Band of Hope. By J. L. Nye. Price 2s.

Admirable for the purpose intended, and for Sewing Classes and Mothers' Meetings.

Want of space forbids our going any more into detail. Let what we have said suffice for the following:—

Villegagnon. A Tale of the Huguenot Persecution. By W. H. G. Kingston. Price 2s. 6d.

The King's Army. By Annie Gray. Price 2s. 6d.

The Heroine of Brookleigh. By Edith C. Kenyon. Price 2s.

Gideon Hoole's Secret. By W. J. Lucey. Price 2s.

Bertha Pemberthy. By H. G. Groser. Price 1s.

Heirs of Dene Royal. By Julia Chandler. Price 1s.

Tom Winter's Life Work. Price 1s.

Rob's Broken Leg. Price 9d.

The Riband Oath. By Mrs. Battersby. Price 9d.

Is He Clever? or, The Prize Essay. Price 9d.

T. Woolmer, 2, Castle Street, City Road, and 66, Paternoster Row.

The Opposite House. With other Stories for Cottage Homes. Crown 8vo, gilt edges. Fourteen Illustrations. Price 2s. 6d.

The Man with the White Hat; or, The Story of an Unknown Mission. Crown 8vo, gilt edges. Illustrated. Price 2s. 6d.

Good News for Children: God's Love to the Little Ones. Price 2s. 6d.

These three charming volumes, well printed on good paper and tastefully bound, are sure to obtain a wide circulation. They are marked by breadth of intelligence, depth of feeling, and teem with appropriate illustrations, calculated to send the truth home, swift as an arrow from the bow, to the heart of the reader.

The Good Earl: A Brief Sketch of the Career of the Seventh Lord Shaftesbury. Illustrated. Price 1s.

A compact and rapid summary of a noble life, which was devoted to improving the condition of the poor, especially neglected and ill-used children. Such a brilliant example is contagious; therefore the more widely his life is known, the greater are the benefits that must accrue.

Cassell and Company.

The Quiver. September Monthly Part. Price 6d.

The September number is an admirable specimen of this well-established serial. For Sunday reading it is admirably adapted. Its varied contents comprise "The Epistles of Christ," "On Forgetting

Things Behind," "The First Three Gospels," "The Growth of the New Testament," and four or five tales in continuation, all of which are pervaded with a healthy religious tone, and other attractive matter.

RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.

New Biographical Series. Price 1d.

Put into paper covers and distributed as tracts, or placed on the reading-room table, or several bound together forming a small volume for a lads' or working men's library,—in such a shape and way they will be found most helpful. Pen-and-ink sketches, or mental and moral pictures of illustrious men from every rank of life and from the wide realm of history. The presentation of such a gallery of distinguished personages at so cheap a cost is a great boon. Here you may make acquaintance with Bacon, Sidney, Huss, Knox, Melanchthon and Luther, the two Wesleys, Lord Lawrence, Samuel Johnson, Sir David Brewster, Cowper, Wilberforce, Carey, Morrison, &c., &c.

In the October number of the SUNDAY AT HOME, published by the Religious Tract Society, is an able article by G. Holden Pike on the *New Era of Ragged Schools.*

Notices of Meetings.

THREE FLOWER SHOWS.

STEPHEN-THE-YEOMAN.

The fifth annual flower-show of this school was held in the new schoolroom, Marigold Place, Marigold Street, Bermondsey, on Thursday, July 22nd. The display of plants was very good, there being in all 340 exhibits, of which 145 were of annuals grown from seed by the children, the remainder being plants which had been under the care of the exhibitors for some six or eight weeks. Considering under what disheartening circumstances the flowers had been reared—the narrow, crowded lanes and the close, dingy rooms—the appearance of the plants was more than creditable. But flowers are grateful for loving care even when they live in a garret or a dark basement. It is a hopeful sign of the children of Stephen-the-Yeoman Ragged School that they show so much affection for their geraniums and fuchsias and mignonette. We congratulate the friends at Marigold Place on the success of their efforts to spread a love for flowers in the district. They do not lack for encouragement to go forward in this good work, as each show has thus far been a distinct improvement on its predecessor, alike for quality and quantity of exhibits.

The Hon. H. A. Lawrence presided, while Mrs. Lawrence distributed the prizes, of which about fifty were given. During the evening some of the scholars belonging to the Day School sang—and sang

very well—a selection of songs. Addresses were delivered by the chairman, and by Mr. T. Farmer, ex-superintendent of the school, and Mr. R. J. Curtis, of the Ragged School Union. The meeting was a great success—indeed, rather too much so, as the room was inconveniently crowded by a very eager audience. Thanks were given to the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence, who always take a most kindly interest in the school, to Mr. Goff, florist, who kindly adjudicated the prizes, and to Mr. J. B. Miller, who, as in previous years, officiated as secretary.

LANSDOWNE PLACE, TABARD STREET (LATE KENT STREET).

The annual flower-show of this school was held on Friday evening, August 13th. Twelve weeks previously 175 plants were distributed to the scholars, to be grown in their own homes, and of these no less than 115 were brought in on Thursday evening for exhibition, when they were carefully judged and the prizes awarded accordingly.

On Friday evening the superintendent, Mr. F. Passmore, in a few words expressed the pleasure it gave him to see the flowers in much better condition than those shown last year, and also said how encouraging it must be to them to have their perseverance rewarded with so many clean and healthy plants. The prizes were presented by Mrs. F. Fisher, wife of the secretary of the school. The first and second prizes (six in all) consisted of articles of wearing apparel suited to the requirements of the scholars, to the value of 4s. 6d. and 3s. respectively. For the third prizes an illustrated book and a useful article were given. Illustrated books were also given as extra prizes, and a number of very pretty floral cards were presented as certificates of merit. Tastefully arranged with the plants, and adding very much to the pretty effect of the room, was a quantity of cut flowers brought by the teachers, and afterwards distributed to the parents of the children.

LEICESTER RAGGED SCHOOL MISSION FLOWER SHOW.

The fourth annual flower-show in connection with the Ragged School was held at the Mission Hall, Bedford Street, on Thursday, when there was a large attendance of the poor people of the neighbourhood. The room was decorated with flowers, ferns, and plants, by Mr. Scott Letts, the secretary of the Flower Mission. The plants for competition consisted of geraniums, fuchsias, and lobelias, all grown at the homes of the children exhibiting them, the plants being supplied in the spring from the Ragged School. There was also a nice lot of wild-flower bouquets gathered by the children or their parents. The judge was Mr. Burton, gardener at the Abbey Park, and the following awards, in books, were made:—Geraniums, eight prizes; fuchsias, five prizes; lobelias, three prizes; wild flowers, four prizes.

ALL WORK AND NO PLAY

is not conducive to the elastic movement of the body or the mind. So think some of our hardest workers, who as an unbroken band make an excursion in the summer on some well-appointed day into the country. The tie that binds them is not only drawn closer by these festive gather-

ings, but the staff of teachers is frequently augmented.

LANSDOWNE PLACE SCHOOL, TABARD STREET (LATE KENT STREET).—TEACHERS' PICNIC EXCURSION.

The annual excursion of the teachers and friends of this school took place on a recent Saturday, and was favoured with splendid weather. The party, forty-six in number, left London Bridge Station, South-Eastern Railway, shortly after two p.m., for West Wickham Station. After a short walk the company divided into two parties, the smaller number taking the bridle path through Wickham Woods for the purpose of visiting Addington Park (by kind permission of His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury), whilst about thirty friends walked thither by a different route, visiting on their way the ancient mansion of Wickham Court by special permission of the owner and present occupier, Sir John Farnaby Lennard, Bart. After viewing the interesting interior, containing some remarkable antiquities, Lady Lennard graciously conducted the party through the spacious greenhouses and beautiful gardens, pointing out the Anne Boleyn Walk and other interesting features. A walk was then taken through the fields over the hill to Addington village, where all assembled to a substantial meat tea, provided in the gardens of the famous Cricketers' Inn. In the evening an enjoyable time was spent rambling in Addington Park until 8.45, when the company retraced their steps through the woods to Wickham Station. These annual outings prove very attractive, and provide a means of intercourse for friends engaged in the same work, who have not much opportunity of otherwise meeting together.

RICHMOND STREET MISSION.

The teachers connected with the Ragged School of this mission spent a very pleasant day together at Haliloo Farm on Saturday, 26th June. Meeting at London Bridge, the first party, amongst whom were Mr. J. Kirk, Mr. Barr, the superintendent, and others, started at noon, and arrived at the farm in time for luncheon. The friends for the most part dispersed about the spacious grounds and woods on their arrival, some for the enjoyment of the fresh country views, and others indulging in cricket and other amusements. At tea-time forty-two friends, all of whom (excepting Mr. J. Kirk) were workers at the mission, sat at the table and enjoyed the repast. Before leaving the whole of the party met together on the lawn, and with the proprietor and his family, who kindly lent their American organ for the purpose, joined in heartily singing some half-dozen hymns. A most enjoyable day was spent, and the bond of unity amongst the teachers was strengthened and encouraged by thus bringing the workers together for a day's pleasure.

A WINTER'S FORECAST.—FOX COURT RAGGED SCHOOL.

The operations in connection with this institution are very numerous, and meet the wants of children and adults in a most praiseworthy way. On Monday evening, September 13, a meeting of a goodly array of workers was held, over which Mr. R. J. Curtis (Ragged School Union) presided. Mr. Fagg, the honorary

secretary, went through briefly and rapidly the winter's programme, which embraced Sunday Schools, Week-night Schools, Bands of Hope, Sewing Classes, Youths' Institute, Mission Services, Penny Bank, Children's Breakfasts, Children's Dinners, Tract Distribution, Sick Relief Society, Visitation Society, Singing Class, Lectures and Entertainments, Bible Classes, Library, Open-air Services, &c. The healthy tone of the meeting, and the results accruing from the conference, as manifested in an increase of interest in the work and an increase of workers, should operate as an incentive to friends of Ragged School work generally to take similar forecasts

SERMON LANE MISSION.—CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY.

For nearly three years Mr. George Fuller, the superintendent of Sermon Lane Mission, has been suffering from a serious and protracted complaint. Very heavy expenses have been incurred by him for medical treatment and necessary change of air during the summer months, in addition to the sad accident to Mrs. Fuller, which invalided her for nearly four years. The president and secretary, Mr. W. D. Lewis and Mr. Daniel Cooksey, with other kind-hearted friends, desiring to show their Christian sympathy, presented Mr. Fuller, a few days ago, with eighty guineas, in some measure to alleviate his severe trial, and to give expression to the appreciation in which he is held. Mr. Fuller's numerous friends will be glad to hear that during the past few months some rays of hope have been shed upon his path, which have encouraged the impression that the worst is past, and that once more he may be able to carry on the work of the mission as actively as in former years.

OPEN-AIR LANTERN SERVICE IN LONDON.

On September 7th a children's lantern service was conducted by Mr. E. Hughes, on the site of the new Jurston Street and Shaftesbury Memorial School, Charles Street, Westminster Bridge Road, S.E. The children assembled about 7.30 p.m., and several short gospel addresses were given, interspersed with the singing of hymns. The little ones thoroughly enjoyed the service, for living in the crowded streets of this very poor neighbourhood, a meeting lit up by Japanese lanterns was to them a very great novelty. It is hoped these services may be repeated at intervals during the fine autumn evenings. Open-air meetings are also held each Sunday morning from 11 to 12 o'clock, and are much appreciated by the children. The Sunday School is now temporarily located in a building formerly occupied as a "Penny Gaff," in the New Cut. The week-evening operations of the teachers are greatly cramped by reason of this building being only available for a few hours on Sundays, and subscriptions towards the erection of a new school are earnestly solicited by, and may be forwarded to, Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., Christ Church, Westminster Road, S.E.; or to the Superintendent, Mr. E. Hughes, 60, New Kent Road, S.E.

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By G. T. CONGREVE, *Coombe Lodge, Peckham.*

Nature, Progress, and True Treatment of this Scourge of England.

The following Cases are selected from the SEVENTEENTH SERIES.

INCIPIENT PHTHISIS.

The following case is that of Miss ANNIE WEAVING, THE COTTAGE, UPPER SLAUGHTER, MORETON-IN-THE-MARSH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, who wrote me first on the 5th of September, last year, by advice of a friend, who had seen a report of my treatment in a publication called "The Little Gleaner." Consumption had shown itself in the family, and now threatened her.

This patient's illness had commenced eight months before with cold and acute pains in the chest, followed by troublesome cough, and pains extending now from the side through to the shoulder blade; fever, and flushings after food. Considerable loss of flesh had taken place. Writing me at this time, she says: "I have taken a great deal of medicine and pills, but to no avail."

There was not much progress for some weeks, but the patient continued, and in her last letter she says: "I am sorry I neglected writing you so long, but after the last medicine you sent me, I lost the pains, &c., and am now quite strong again. I feel deeply thankful to you, and shall be pleased to recommend your treatment.—Yours gratefully," &c.

CASE of Mr. J. LEADLY, CO. FERMANAGH.

Some time in the latter part of last year this patient wrote me for medicine and advice. At that time he was suffering from all the symptoms of phthisis; especially night perspiration, following a most harassing cough, were exhausting in the extreme. For this and other symptoms he was duly advised.

In a recent letter he says: "It is with the utmost pleasure I desire to bear my testimony to the efficacy of your treatment. The benefit I have derived from it is wonderful. I continued it for four months, and am now perfectly well.—JOHN LEADLY, SYDARE, BALLINAMALLARD, CO. FERMANAGH."

EXTRACT from a LETTER of Mr. EDWIN R. HOSKIN (Author of "Hoskin's Guide to the Isle of Wight," and Manager of several Monthly Papers).

"When last in the Island I got into conversation with a young man who I found had been given up by all the doctors of his own town (Romsey). He said: 'I owe my life to a gentleman named Congreve, of Peckham, near London.'—This I thought a good testimonial to your practice."

LETTER RELATIVE TO CASE of Mr. HEMBERY.

The following is an extract from a letter written to Mr. Alexander Mutch in answer to inquiries relative to his case. (Mr. Hembery was under my treatment for about seven weeks.)

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